

Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: DAILY ACTIVITIES REPORTS FROM THE PRINCIPALS
FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 1976

ONLY D SUBMITTED REPORT.

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM ROBERT S. INGERSOLL

THE PORTUGUESE MINISTER OF INTERNAL ADMINISTRATION,
DE ALMEIDA E COSTA, CALLED. HE NOTED THAT PORTUGAL'S
MOST PRESSING NEAR-TERM NEED WILL BE TO MAINTAIN A
CLIMATE OF POLITICAL STABILITY IN WHICH TO REBUILD
THE ECONOMY. I ASSURED HIM OF OUR CONTINUED WILLING-
NESS TO HELP PORTUGAL IN THIS DIFFICULT PERIOD. THE
MINISTER EXPRESSED QUALIFIED OPTIMISM THAT THE GENERAL
ELECTIONS SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 25 WILL COME OFF ON
SCHEDULE, PROVIDED THAT THE BUREAUCRATS IN LISBON
FINISH DRAFTING THE CONSTITUTION FIRST. I EXPRESSED
THE HOPE THAT PORTUGAL WOULD NOT BE THE FIRST
EUROPEAN COUNTRY TO RECOGNIZE THE MPLA; DE ALMEIDA
E COSTA SMILED AND REPLIED, "WE CAN'T BE THE LAST".

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HARTMAN AND I LUNCHEONED WITH BERNDT VON STADEN. HE BELIEVES THE GERMAN ECONOMY IS RECOVERING FASTER THAN THEIR BUSINESSMEN WILL ADMIT BECAUSE THEY WANT TO DENY ANY POLITICAL ADVANTAGE TO THE GOVERNING COALITION. THE LATEST POLLS SHOW THE COALITION AND THE CDU IN A DEAD HEAT. VON STADEN NOTED SCHMIDT'S RELUCTANCE TO FUND THE RELOCATION OF A BRIGADE AS AN OFFSET INASMUCH AS THE CURRENT BALANCE OF PAYMENTS IS IN OUR FAVOR. HE COMMENTED ON CONTINUING GERMAN DISTRUST OF SOVIET MOTIVES AND NOTED STRONG FRG SUPPORT FOR OUR WILLINGNESS TO STAND UP TO THE SOVIETS IN ANGOLA.

AT THE LARGE STAFF MEETING, JIM KEOGH REPORTED THAT PARTICIPANTS IN THE AFRICAN REGIONAL PAO CONFERENCE HAD EXPRESSED DEEP CONCERN ABOUT THE EFFECTIVENESS OF SOVIET PROPAGANDA IN AFRICA. SONNENFELDT OBSERVED THAT IT IS NOT SUFFICIENT TO MEET SOVIET SUCCESSES IN AFRICA WITH PROPAGANDA ALONE; WE NEED A NET ASSESSMENT WHICH WOULD CORRELATE USIA'S EFFORTS WITH AID, POLITICAL INITIATIVES AND MILITARY SUPPLIES.

CAROL LAISE AND I MET WITH ALLEN PARMENTER, DIRECTOR OF THE PRESIDENT'S PERSONNEL INTERCHANGE COMMISSION, TO REVIEW THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAM OF YEAR-LONG EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE DEPARTMENT AND PRIVATE INDUSTRY. WE HAVE SENT A NUMBER OF ABLE FSO'S TO THE PRIVATE SECTOR IN THE PAST BUT HAVE NOT BENEFITTED AS MUCH IN RETURN. THE COMMISSION'S PROGRAM WILL SOON FACE STIFF COMPETITION AS WE ASSIGN PERSONNEL TO LOCAL GOVERNMENTS UNDER THE PEARSON AMENDMENT.

I MET WITH THE S/IG OFFICERS WHO ARE ABOUT TO BEGIN AN INSPECTION OF THE EA BUREAU, TO DISCUSS THE CURRENT MATCH BETWEEN POLICY PRIORITIES AND RESOURCE ALLOCATION.

ALSO DURING THE DAY: CALL BY NEW ISRAELI DCM.

TOMORROW: LUNCHEON WITH EARL BUTZ, CALLS BY BANGLADESH AND PERUVIAN AMBASSADORS. INGERSOLL

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